

The Hartford News

December 3 – 9, 2020



HARTFORD HOLIDAYS 2020

Hartford's Holiday Season will be a lot different this year. Like the Grinch That Stole Christmas, the resurgent COVID-19 pandemic has put a damper on almost all the usual festivities. But people, businesses and organizations are making the best of it, as they have since the virus first struck back in March. Decorations are lighting up the long winter nights. Many holiday events are being held, although most are online. And, in the true holiday spirit, donations of toys, food and winter clothing are being collected and distributed throughout the region. This year, make the holidays special by reaching out to the homeless, the elderly and others in need. That's what the holidays are all about!

Photos (top to bottom): Hartford Holiday Light Fantasia in Goodwin Park; storefront displays on Pratt Street, Downtown Hartford; the Colt Dome decorated for the holidays.





HARTFORD HOLIDAYS 2020



A Special Edition for a Very Special Year



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HARTFORD HOLIDAYS 2020



A Special Edition for a Very Special Year

A Holiday Season Like No Other

The older we get, the more the years blend in together. But it's safe to say that no one will get 2020 mixed up with any other year. It was the year when a masked man entering a bank wasn't a dangerous criminal, but a good citizen. The year when not just older folks, but even six-year-old kids could sit around and lament the passing of "the good old days," because that far-off golden time had ended only a few months before, back when COVID came.

And just as the year has been unique, so will the 2020 holiday season in Greater Hartford. Usually, our holiday edition is packed with events large and small. But this year, most events will be held online, such as *A Christmas Carol* at Hartford Stage (see page 4) and First Night Hartford (see page 7). Others have been cancelled altogether, such as Winterfest in Bushnell Park.



Here comes Santa Claus ...2020-style! Bob Marshall, owner of *Naturally Dogs and Cats* at 51 Asylum Street in Downtown Hartford, stopped by the "Home for the Holidays" event on Pratt Street last Saturday morning before hosting visits with Santa at his shop. Bob will be offering photos with Santa at his shop from 12-3 pm on December 5, 12 and 19. Please use your own phone to take the photos and make a \$5 donation to the Enfield Dog Park.

But some events are still live, like the Hartford Holiday Light Fantasia in Goodwin Park. Admission to the Wadsworth Atheneum is free through January 3, and several live musical performances have been scheduled (see page 5).

Despite all, the holiday spirit is still alive in Hartford this year. Toy drives are being held (see page 6). Decorations are going up all over, from Downtown skyscrapers to private homes throughout the city. This year, the Hartford News is combining with the Hartford Chamber of Commerce to host a Holiday Decoration Contest for both businesses and residences (see page 5). Nominate yourself or a neighbor. And have a happy and SAFE holiday!

Hartford Holiday Light Fantasia Brightens Up A Dark Year

Fun, Beautiful... and Safe!

While Hartford Holiday Light Fantasia in Goodwin Park has been a local holiday tradition for over two decades, this year will be extra special. Because touring the brilliantly lit road through the park is done by car, it's automatically socially-distanced and will be just like in years past, despite the current pandemic.

The two-mile show transforms Goodwin Park in Hartford's South End into a drive-through wonderland of holiday spirit with a beautiful collection of over one-million lights.

Whimsical holiday scenes, familiar characters and local tributes shine bright in larger-than-life lighted scenes and 200 individual displays. Lighted animations celebrate not only Christmas, but Hanukkah, New Years and Three Kings Day.

Benefiting the Channel 3 Kids Camp, the Hartford Holiday tradition welcomed over 100,000 visitors last year!



Restaurateur and promoter Frank Maratta, who created the popular drive-through light display in 1999, donated all of the light displays and equipment to the Channel 3 Kids Camp, a non-profit year-round camp that serves nearly 3,000 children from every county in Connecticut and throughout New England.

Hours & Tickets

Hours are 5 pm - 10 pm, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday through January 3, 2021. Cost is \$15/car. Use the park entrance off Maple Avenue, just before its intersection with Fairfield Avenue.

Directions

- From I-91 North:** Take exit 27, Airport Road. Turn left at the stop light onto Brainard Road. Make a left at the next light onto Airport Road. Follow Airport Road to Maple Avenue. Turn left on Maple Avenue and follow signs to Holiday Light Fantasia.
- From I-91 South:** Take exit 27, Airport Road. Turn right at the end of the exit ramp onto Brainard Road. Continue to Maple Avenue, and make a left onto Maple Avenue. Follow signs to Holiday Light Fantasia.
- From I-84 East:** Follow I-84 East to I-91 South, then see directions above.
- From I-84 West:** Follow I-84 West to left-hand exit 57 for Route 15 South. Take exit 87 for Brainard Road/Airport Road, and at the end of the exit ramp, turn left onto Brainard Road. At the first light, turn left onto Airport Road and continue to Maple Avenue. Turn left onto Maple Avenue and follow signs to Holiday Light Fantasia.
- From Route 15 (Berlin Turnpike):** The Berlin Turnpike (Route 15) North becomes Maple Avenue. Stay straight on Maple Avenue and follow signs to Holiday Light Fantasia.



Channel 3 Kids Camp

The Goodwin Park holiday event is owned and managed by the Channel 3 Kids Camp and proceeds from the admission fees will help us to operate our 150-acre year-round program.

"We are very grateful for Frank Maratta's extraordinary vision in creating this fantastic light display and his generosity in transferring it to the Channel 3 Kids Camp so we can ensure its continuation for years to come," says Kids Camp CEO, Denise Hornbecker.

Each year nearly 3,000 children ages 8-17 from Connecticut and areas throughout New England attend the Channel 3 Kids Camp in Andover, CT.

The unique, year-round program makes it possible for all children to attend camp without financial restrictions.

A 'Kids Camp Experience' is the ultimate retreat for children. Our positive programming continues summer learning and encourages values for a successful life beyond camp. We promote leadership, diversity, and integrity with activities that broaden self-esteem, communication and respect for others.

Now offering summer and year-round programs including:

- Summer Overnight & Day Camp.
- Camp Independence: A week to

provide camping experiences to children who are visually impaired, blind or deaf-blind.

- Year-Round Camp Leadership Program: Social, academic, career and cultural development for 'graduated' campers that feeds into our CIT program and Junior Counselor program.
- Sibling Connections: A partnership week with DCF and Wheeler Clinic that reunites separated siblings in foster care through a therapeutic camp experience.
- Camp Courage: A partnership week with the Epilepsy Foundation.
- Camp Liberty: A partnership with the American Academy of Dermatology that is for children with chronic skin conditions.
- Year-round Respite Weekends.

In the Summer of 2014, C3KC became wheelchair accessible and now serves children with special needs alongside typically developing children. Its dorm-style cabin, Ashley's Place, accommodates children and adults of varying abilities with 24-hour nursing support.

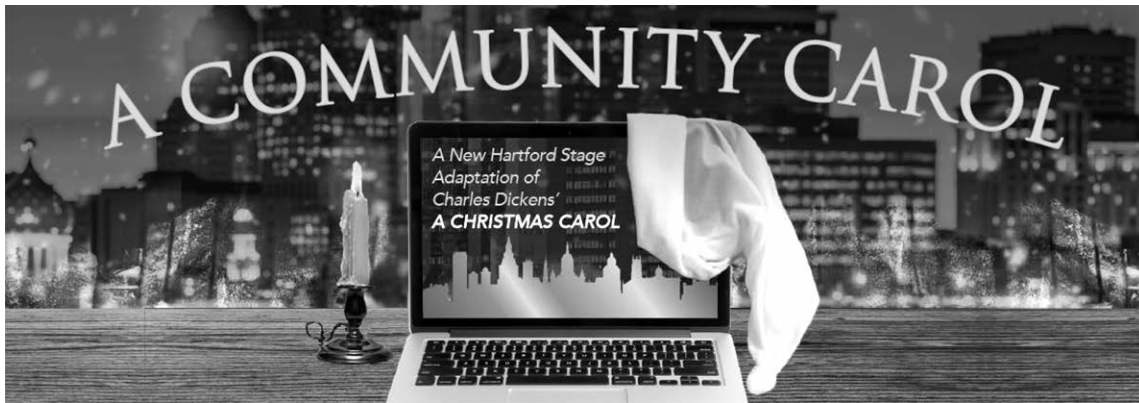
The Channel 3 Kids Camp serves individuals all year long regardless of economic, physical or developmental ability to come play, learn and grow without barriers.

Hartford City Church Toy Give-Away Dec. 13

Hartford City Church will hold a special drive-thru toy give-away from 1 - 3 pm on Sunday, December 13, in the parking lot of the Ukrainian-American Home, 961 Wethersfield Avenue, near the Wethersfield town line. Rain date for the event is Sunday, December 20. A free toy will be given to each child (up to age 12) while supplies last. Please remember to wear your mask and follow social distancing guidelines.

HARTFORD HOLIDAYS 2020

A Special Edition for a Very Special Year



Hartford Stage Presents a New, Virtual Version of Charles Dickens' Holiday Classic

Live theater is all about intimacy between the actors and the audience and among each other. But intimacy has become a no-no during the COVID-19 pandemic and, like theaters across the world, Hartford Stage's stage has been dark for most of the year. This has greatly strained the Tony Award winning theater's finances. But the staff couldn't let the holiday season pass without presenting at least a virtual version of its highly popular *A Christmas Carol*, and with help from over a dozen local performers and organizations, *A Community Carol* was born.

Opening night for the show will be Thursday, December 17, at 7:30 pm.

The story opens on a quiet winter's night as the cast of Hartford Stage's annual *A Christmas Carol* has Zoomed together to read the famous story in honor of what would have been the 23rd season. But, as the spine of the book cracks open, the cold wind sweeps in, the lights flicker, the Wi-Fi is unstable and the spirits that haunt its pages guide us on a journey through a story we thought we knew so well.

Adapted and directed by Rachel Alderman, *A Community Carol* was created in partnership with returning Christmas Carol cast members, local artists, Hartford neighbors and area theater students.

Tickets are FREE with a suggested donation to Hartford Stage's Raise the Curtain fundraising campaign. Thanks to a generous friend of Hartford Stage, all donations for *A Community Carol* will be matched!

Community Candle Lighting

Join Hartford Stage before the show on at 7 pm for a community candle lighting ceremony! Patrons who

make a donation of \$25 or more will receive a special "Community Carol" candle that can be used during the ceremony!

Tickets

Tickets to the opening night of *A Community Carol* are free, but a donation to Hartford Stage is highly encouraged. To register, go to: <https://ticketing.hartfordstage.org/2484/2486>. Following the Opening Night performance on December 17th, a recorded version *A Community Carol* will be available through Monday, December 21 at 7:30 pm.

By registering, you will receive access to the Opening Night performance, as well as the recorded version which can be viewed as many times as you want within the 4-day period.

Cast

Vanessa R Butler, Robert Hannon Davis, Kenneth De Abrew, Rebecca Jones, Sarah Killough, Shauna Miles, John-Andrew Morrison, Michael Preston, Buzz Roddy, Alan Rust, Noble Shropshire and Terrell Donnell Sledge

Additional Performers

Devé-Ann Bennett, Deje Bennett, Emma Billings, Isabella Corica, Anne Cubberly, Malena Gordo, Barbara Karger, Ezra Mendez, Destini Stewart, Ava Vercellone, A Christmas Carol Youth Ensemble, The Hartt School, Capital Community College, Hartford Gay Men's Chorus, Christ Church Cathedral, The Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr of Unitarian Society of Hartford.

VIRTUAL EVENTS:

Christmas on the Rocks Returns to TheaterWorks Theater Will Also Air A Very Ella Christmas

Fresh, funny and smart – it's back. Conceived and directed by Producing Artistic Director Rob Ruggiero, one of Connecticut's favorite holiday traditions returns to TheaterWorks Hartford. *Christmas On The Rocks* features seven playwrights each adding their own spin to the canon of holiday traditions past. Rob said "This is Christmas on the Rocks as you know it – but filmed to stream on our stage – and this year, the audience will be behind the bar." Filmed in first person Point of View, this adventurous new look puts you right in the middle of the action.

Rob added "I'm super excited, we're bringing together the whole gang! This year, fan favorites Jenn Harris (The Women) and Randy Harrison (Tiny Tim and Ralphie) will be joined by Harry Bouvy (Charlie) and Matthew Wilkas (Hermy) - both featured in previous years as The Man. Ted Lange is also back as the voice of The Bartender. This is the 8th year TheaterWorks has staged the production to an ever-growing audience.

The play takes place on Christmas Eve in a rundown local bar. Expecting a silent night, the bartender finds himself mixing drinks for a parade of surprising guests - children from your favorite Christmas specials and movies - now all grown up. Join them as they pour out their Christmas woes in this delightful parody.

Christmas On The Rocks streams through December 31, 2020.

Tickets

- Monthly Memberships (on demand all month + perks) \$20.21/month with a one-time \$5 startup fee
- Annual Memberships \$195 includes 12 plays VOD
- Single Ticket Streams (24 hour streams) \$25

A Very Ella Christmas

TheaterWorks will also present "A Very Ella Christmas" during the holiday season. Renown Jazz singer and Broadway performer, Tina Fabrique, will lift your spirits in this holiday tribute to jazz icon — Ella Fitzgerald.

A jolly, happy show of toe-tappin' hits including "Jingle Bells," "Winter Wonderland," "Santa Claus Is Coming To Town," "I'll Be Home For Christmas" — and more of your favorites. Accompanied by a jazz trio and filmed live on-stage at TheaterWorks Hartford. Let's take that road before us and sing a chorus or two (or three).

The show will stream December 11 - 31. Single-stream tickets are \$25 (plus \$3 service charge).



Have a Scientific Holiday! Connecticut Science Center Remains Open with Precautions in Place



Since the very existence of the Connecticut Science Center (CTSC) is based on the value of science, it's no surprise that the institution has adopted advanced measures to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus and is remaining open during the pandemic.

Located at 250 Columbus Boulevard in Downtown Hartford, CTSC is open Tuesday - Sunday 10AM - 4PM with special hours on holidays and school vacation.

A timed ticket is required for entry into the Connecticut Science Center and must be purchased online in advance of your arrival. Face masks and additional safety protocols are also in place for everyone's protection. To purchase your timed ticket and for more information about safety protocols, visit CTScienceCenter.org.

Letters to Science

Do you have a burning science question? What are you wondering about? What do you notice? We want to hear your questions. Submit your science questions, letters and drawings. Then, stay tuned because our science experts may answer them for you online. Participating is easy, find one of our Dear Science mailbox stations during your next visit to the Science Center or email askscience@ctsciencecenter.org

Storytime, Daily, 11:30AM & 1PM

Join Connecticut Science Center staff in our Forces in Motion Gallery as they read fun, science-themed, stories to your little ones. It is the perfect break for children 6 and under and is included with your purchase of General Admission or a Connecticut Science Center Membership. Presented by: ProHealth Physicians, Part of OptumCare

Activities for Children & Teens

Face Mask Decorating

Join in the fun and channel your inner fashionista while decorating your very own reusable face mask. This fun activity takes place twice a week and will continue while supplies last. While you decorate, you will learn about how face masks help work to keep us safe and why they are so important in the fight to stop the spread of disease. Participants will each get to take home their uniquely designed mask. Wednesday and Friday 11:15AM -1:15PM. Masks and supplies will be provided.

LIVE Science Demonstrations & Daily Onsite Activities:

Join our Science Show Presenters in our galleries for LIVE interactive science activities including fun programs on virology, animal adaptations, engineering and more! Programs are daily and times vary. All activities are included with General Admission or Membership. Please refer to the schedule posted daily onsite.

"Upcycled" Gingerbread House, Holiday Maker House Contest and



Workshop

Through Tuesday, December 15: Create your very own "upcycled" Gingerbread house and you could win a prize package from the Connecticut Science Center! Accepting submissions through December 15. CTSC Members, the public, and community partners are invited to create an upcycled gingerbread house using

Continued on page 6

To order tickets for either show, go to <https://twhartford.org/>



HARTFORD HOLIDAYS 2020



A Special Edition for a Very Special Year

Free Admission to Wadsworth Atheneum through January 3, 2021

The Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, 600 Main Street in Downtown Hartford, will extend the gift of free admission to all through the holiday season, until January 3, 2021. While the museum’s annual Festival of Trees & Traditions will not take place this year, the galleries will be decorated with festive seasonal décor. Stroll the museum with family and friends to explore art together and catch a special holiday music performance.

The Museum Shop is open during all regular museum hours and stocked with unique gifts for all on your list. Reserve your ticket in advance via thewadsworth.org. Walk-up visitors may be accommodated based on availability.

The Wadsworth is operating at limited capacity with timed entry in line with the state's Reopen Connecticut guidelines. Hours are noon-8pm Fridays, and noon-5pm Saturdays, and Sundays.

Visitors are required to wear a face mask/covering, receive a contactless temperature check upon entry, and observe a safe social distance of 6 feet from others while on the grounds of the Wadsworth and inside the museum. The library, food service, and Austin House are currently closed



to the public.

Holiday Music Performances

All performances below take place in the museum.

Friday, December 4; 5:30-7:30pm: Matt DeChamplain, Artist Teacher at the Hartt School, University of Hartford (piano)

Sunday, December 6; 2-3pm: Debbie Vinick (harp)

Saturday, December 12; 2-3pm: UCONN students Sofia DiNatale (cello) and Emma Bocciarelli (piano)

Sunday, December 13; 2-3pm: Matt DeChamplain (piano)

Friday, December 18; 5:30-

7:30pm: CT Virtuosi musicians Brunilda Myftaraj (violin) and Blake Hansen (piano)

Saturday, December 19; 2-3pm: UCONN student Nicholas Zavaglia (jazz guitar)

Sunday, December 20; 2-3pm: UCONN students Jacob Nordlinger (cello) and Myles Mocarski (violin)

Saturday, December 26; 2-3pm: Blake Henry (classical and jazz guitar)

Sunday, December 27; 2-3pm: Debbie Vinick (harp)

Saturday, January 2; 2-3pm: Zaccai Curtis (piano) and Matt Dwonszyk (bass)

Sunday, January 3; 2-3pm: CT Virtuosi musicians Brunilda Myftaraj (violin) and Adrian Sylveen (violin and viola)

Holiday Hours

Closed on Christmas Day, Friday, December 25, 2020; and New Year’s Day, Friday, January 1, 2021

Current Exhibitions

Savor: A Revolution in Food Culture: Through January 3, 2021

Made in Connecticut: Cele-

brating 25 Years of the CT Art Trail: Through February 7, 2021

Ali Banisadr / MATRIX 185: Through February 14, 2021

Chaim Gross / I Love My Baby / A Love of Wood: Through March 21, 2021

Protest and Promise: Selections from the Contemporary Art Collection, 1963-2019: Ongoing

About the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art

Founded in 1842 with a vision for infusing art into the American experience, the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art is home to a collection of nearly 50,000 works of art spanning 5,000 years and encompassing European art from antiquity through contemporary as well as American art from the 1600s to today. The Wadsworth Atheneum’s five connected buildings – representing architectural styles including Gothic Revival, modern International Style, and 1960s Brutalism – are located at 600 Main Street in Hartford. For more information, call (860) 278-2670; website: thewadsworth.org.

2020 Hartford News & Hartford Chamber of Commerce

HOLIDAY DECORATION CONTEST NOMINATION FORM

The Hartford News and the Hartford Chamber of Commerce are sponsoring a Hartford Holiday Decorating Contest this year for residences and businesses/organizations.

RULES: Nominations can be submitted online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KFNMXFW>, or mailed or dropped off at Hartford News, 563 Franklin Avenue, Hartford, CT 06114. Winners will be chosen based on originality, effort and overall beauty. Judges will be from the staff of The Hartford News and the Hartford Chamber of Commerce. ALL DECISIONS OF THE JUDGES ARE FINAL. 4 residential day displays and 4 residential night displays will be chosen and 4 business/organization day displays and 3 business/organization night displays will be chosen from each area as winners.

DEADLINES: Mailed submissions must be postmarked no later than December 14, 2020. Nominations can be made online or dropped off in person no later than 5 pm on December 16, 2020. Nominations will be judged over the weekend of December 18-20. Winners will be announced online on Wednesday, December 23, and in the December 24th edition of the Hartford News.

PRIZES: Each residential winner will receive a \$50 gift card for Super Stop & Shop plus a sign to put on their lawn announcing that they are a winner. Each business/organization will receive a free ad in The Hartford News, plus a lawn sign.

For more information, call The Hartford News at 860-296-6128 or email hartfordnews@aol.com

NAME: _____

NOMINATED BY: _____

If you are nominating a person, business or organization aside from yourself, please secure their agreement to be nominated before submitting this form.

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ e-MAIL: _____

- ☐ DAY DISPLAY
- ☐ NIGHT DISPLAY
- ☐ RESIDENTIAL
- ☐ BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION

AREA: ☐ NORTH ☐ CENTRAL ☐ SOUTH ☐ DOWNTOWN

ALL nominated homes and businesses must be located within Hartford city lines. For this contest, **NORTH** is all Hartford north of Albany Avenue and the railroad tracks. **CENTRAL** is all Hartford south of Albany Avenue; north of New Britain Avenue- Barnard Street - Maple Avenue - Wyllys Street - Charter Oak Avenue; and west of DOWNTOWN (see below). **SOUTH** is all Hartford south of New Britain Avenue - Barnard Street - Maple Avenue - Wyllys Street - Charter Oak Avenue. **DOWNTOWN** is all Hartford west of the Connecticut River; south of the railroad tracks and Albany Avenue; east of Edwards Street - Cogswell Street - Broad Street; and north of Maple Avenue - Wyllys Street - Charter Oak Avenue.

Please mail or drop off this form at **Hartford News, 563 Franklin Avenue, Hartford, CT 06114**. Mailed submissions must be postmarked no later than December 14, 2020. Nominations must be dropped off no later than December 16, 2020.

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HARTFORD HOLIDAYS 2020

A Special Edition for a Very Special Year



Give the Gift of Happiness: Donate A Toy

Toys Being Collected for Analeh Toy Drive Saturday

For the first time in its 11-year history, the Analeh Holiday Toy Drive will have a drive-through toy collection on three different days:

November 28 and 29 and December 5. In past years, the toys have been collected at a community banquet, which will be virtual this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Those wishing to support the Toy Drive with a new, unwrapped toy for children ages 5-12 (or a gift card for

teenagers) can bring their gifts this Saturday, December 5 from 12-5 p.m. – to The Hispanic Health Council Drive-Thru Toy Collection Site, 175 Main Street, Hartford. Monetary donations are accepted, as well, and supporters may donate online in advance through the United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut at app.mobilecause.com/form/8cl0yg?vid=dw6k8. The Toy Drive is organized annually by the team behind El Show de Analeh, which airs every Saturday at 11 a.m. on Univision and UniMas Channel 18.

City of Hartford Toy Drive

The City of Hartford will be accepting items for its annual Holiday Toy Drive through Tuesday, December 15. New, unwrapped toys for children ages 0-17 can be dropped off during regular business hours, Monday-Friday at the following Hartford locations: Hartford Public Safety Complex, 253 High Street; Hartford City Hall, 550 Main Street (Room 203); Urban League of Greater Hartford, 140 Woodland Street.

CT Science Center Continued from page 4

cardboard, upcycled, and recycled materials.

The rules are simple – create your own cardboard holiday house. Choose any type of structure with landscaping not to exceed 24” wide x 24” long and all materials must be recycled and upcycled materials. Paint, markers, crayons, and other art supplies are all acceptable materials. Perishable materials, food items, items that emit odors or have living creatures in them are not permitted. Items on display should be self-supporting and somewhat sturdy.

Snap a photo of your creation and upload it to our contest page for online voting. Prizes will be awarded in several age group categories. Complete rules and contest information can be found by visiting CTScienceCenter.org.

December 5: Scout Day

Activities will run from 11AM-2PM. Attention Girl Scouts, Brownies, Juniors, Daisies and Cadets! Have fun with themed activities and earn a patch for completing the scavenger hunt and enjoy Live Science Demonstrations in our galleries. Activities are included with General Admission. The special price for Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, STEM Scouts, SEA Scouts and their accompanying guests is only \$14. Timed tickets must be purchased online in advance of your visit. A limited number of tickets are available.

All guests must follow our Safety at Play guidelines, including the use of cloth face coverings. Reserve your timed ticket today by visiting <https://ctsciencecenter.org/community/scouts/>

Maya: Hidden Worlds Revealed- FINAL DAYS

Step into the world of the ancient Maya and explore one of the world’s most complex and advanced civilizations. The new blockbuster traveling exhibition is at the Connecticut Science Center for a limited engagement. Explore Mayan art, culture, architecture, and more through hundreds of authentic artifacts, immersive environments, and plenty of hands-on experiences. Plus, get a peek into the scientific work being carried out at key Maya sites across Central America to understand exactly how we know what we know of the once-hidden Maya of the ancient past. We will have plenty of room for safe distancing and masks are required for everyone ages 2+. Reserve tickets online before your visit by visiting CTScienceCenter.org

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HARTFORD HOLIDAYS 2020

A Special Edition for a Very Special Year



First Night Hartford Goes Online!

This year, First Night Hartford will be turning its 32nd annual New Year’s celebration into a robust TV broadcast, Facebook and Youtube livestream, and live Zoom workshops.

First Night Hartford 2021 will not be hosting any in-person events but will be embarking on the creation of an innovative virtual experience to be held on Thursday, December 31, 2020. With the hope of bringing Greater Hartford’s communities safely together to ring in the new year, First Night Hartford will create a broadcast and livestream experience alongside dozens of community partners, artists, and a local video production company.

First Night has also announced its 2021 button design artist, Lindaluz Carrillo, a local urban artist, graphic designer and prolific muralist.

First Night Hartford Party Kits are now available! The kits were created in collaboration with Hartford Prints! The First Night Party Kit is a fun way for the whole family

to ring in the New Year! They include a coloring book, party masks, temporary tattoos, crayons, and an activity book with the following: word search, crossword puzzle, madlibs, connect the dots, maze, matching, and scavenger hunt.

First Night Hartford 2021 buttons are also now available and are a great way to support First Night Hartford.

To order you buttons and party kits, go to: <https://firstnighthartford.org/buttons-party-kit/first-night-hartford-party-kit>.



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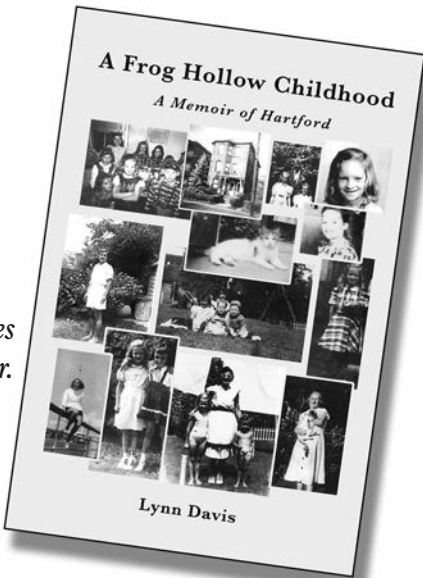
Warren Simpson, President

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Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association
A Hartford Neighborhood Revitalization Zone

News & Views



HARTFORD
HAS IT



ASYLUM HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

From the
Executive Director
BY DAVID MACDONALD

AHNA’s Proposed By-Laws are on the Dec. 7th agenda for vote by our members

AHNA’s By-Laws were last updated in 2009 and the Board of Directors identified several areas in need of improvement. At the November 17th BOD meeting of AHNA, the proposed By-Laws were adopted unanimously and approved for AHNA members to vote on. The reason for updating our By-Laws are summarized here:

- to clarify and clean up any inconsistent or unclear provisions, and
- to assure that AHNA, going forward, continues to serve as the NRZ for the Asylum Hill community, as set out in the Connecticut statutes. The second focus meant clarifying the role of membership, of voting rights, of participation in all ways in the activities of AHNA. These changes adhere to the spirit of the NRZ laws, and we hope they will invigorate the broad membership and community to continue to participate in the important work of AHNA.

In Article II we recommend revising our Mission and Objectives. The 2020 version includes explicit reference to the Neighborhood Revitalization Zone (“NRZ”) CT General Statutes. We also recommend some changes to our objectives by removing language about “lowering residential density,” and adding “a list of stakeholders ...”

In Article III Sections 1 and 2, we recommend some changes to Membership requirements. We are trying to balance the need for inclusion of community voices as well as ensuring that the majority of members are residents of Asylum Hill (a requirement of the NRZ statutes). We clarified that any individual having a significant involvement with the Asylum Hill neighborhood is eligible for membership. We added the capability for an organization to become a member of AHNA by assigning a representative to act on behalf of their organization.

Other Major changes include:

- 1 General Meeting or Committee meeting with a completed application to become member of AHNA.
- 3 general or committee meetings per 12-month period to earn voting rights.
- Voting process at General Meetings is clarified and includes the possibility of Straw Votes to gauge community sentiment.
- Automatic director removal after 3 unexcused absences.
- Election of AHNA Officers by the members.
- Committees select their own Chairs.

To review the proposed By-Laws, visit our website (www.asylumhill.org) for links to our current 2009 By-Laws, the 2020 recommended changes, a summary of the changes, and a matrix comparing different versions of AHNA’s By-Laws. I encourage you to attend our Dec. 7th General Meeting (via Zoom) and vote up or down on the proposed By-Laws.

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

The Hill Feeds the Hungry



Since the end of July, Asylum Hill Congregational Church has been offering a free dinner to any and all neighbors in need, and they added in Thanksgiving with a traditional turkey dinner despite the rain.

Grace Lutheran Church has continued their nine-year tradition of Friday night dinners, now distributed to go, to 100 plus people each week.

Loaves & Fishes, Foodshare, Wheeler Clinic and Saint Joseph Cathedral among others continue their programs of providing food to those in need.

On the day before Thanksgiving there was a table with bags of onions and a box with Butternut squash and a hand-written sign that just said “free”

The newest entry into the effort to provide nutrition to Asylum Hill residents in need, is a partnership between UConn Health and the Urban League of Greater Hartford.

Dr. Helen Wu is an associate professor at UConn Health, and a social epidemiologist; that is to say she is trying to understand the social causes of poor nutrition, and how to reduce them. To do this she is working with ULGH and their program called JUMP, which stands for “Just Us Moving Program”. She has managed to acquire 12 aeroponic tower gardens, chosen because they can produce quality fresh greens in 4-6 weeks year round. They’re in a second story formerly unused storage room at ULGH, which is becoming not only a source for fresh leafy greens for the neighborhood, but a hub to explore and improve

attitudes about nutritious fresh foods. Put simply, first we need quality, healthy fresh foods available; and then those foods need to be valued by the people who need them most. To do that, Dr. Wu wants to understand what is preventing it, and how to change that.

The partnership with the Urban League on Woodland Street was nearly ideal. They are very connected to the Asylum Hill neighborhood, which is largely considered to be a food desert.

What food stores there are sell mostly processed foods that value shelf life over nutrition. They’re only in the business of selling what sells easiest, not what’s most nutritious. In order to change this dynamic there needs to be a significant population that values healthy foods, knows how to prepare them and would support local stores that supply them.

Asylum Hill has tried this in the past, for example when the Green Apple first opened. They stocked a great deal of produce, but weren’t able to maintain either the quality or the quantity long enough to catch on. Eventually they reverted to what sells, lotto tickets instead of fresh fruits and vegetables. Hopefully this time, these partnerships can be sustained long enough to make it economically viable.

For information on how to participate contact Kyrinda Richardson at the Urban League, krinda@ulgh.org or Michelle Slavinsky at UConn Health at slavinsky@uchc.edu or (860) 919-8962

For more photos go to: <https://bit.ly/ulghuconn>

The Mansions on Asylum Avenue, Part 2

Following up on last month’s article, we’ll try to lay out why this particular development is important to Asylum Hill, how it came to be, and what can be done going forward.

Of the three, what can be done going forward is clearly the most important. It seems highly unlikely that it won’t go through to completion. When it does Asylum Hill will have 32 more units of restricted/supportive housing. Deciding what can be done going forward requires a clear understanding both of why it’s important and how it came to be, so this month we’ll start with why it’s important.

Much of the architecture in Asylum Hill today comes from the period between the Civil War and the Great War, roughly from 1865 to 1920.

The earliest important development was of course the American Asylum of Education for Deaf and Dumb as it was called in 1885. In fact, in the 1885 Sanborn map of Hartford, it is the only section of Asylum Ave shown. It is also the namesake of Asylum Hill. Even Nook Farm west of Imlay was not included in 1885.

By 1900, much had changed. There were single-family homes as well as show mansions on Asylum and the

streets north, especially Collins and Ashley. Hartford was one of the most prosperous cities in the country, and beautiful Victorian homes were very common.

Within in a decade the nation was in the Great Depression followed by World War II and not a lot of new construction was happening until after the war.

The effect of health insurance as an alternative to wage increases, and the pent-up demand from the previous 2 decades put economic pressure on what were then 50-60 year old

“old fashion” homes when apartments were in demand for the rapidly expanding insurance industry workforce. This was on top of the move of Aetna from downtown Hartford to their current headquarters on Farmington Ave in 1930. Also the I-84 construction in the early 1960’s caused the demolition of many classic Victorian buildings, most notably, Hartford Public High School. And when technology replaced many of the insurance companies lower paid employees and the better paid moved to the suburbs the glut of efficiency and 1 bedroom units caused real estate values to fall hard.

What remains today are fewer than 75 brick, owner occupied Victorian homes.



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EXPLORING ASYLUM HILL

Saint Joseph Cathedral

It was late in October on a Friday at about lunch time and if you happened to be going down Farmington Ave, that you would have noticed the event on the right. The cross at the very top of the Cathedral bell tower had been illuminated not too long ago as part of an Archdiocesan-wide capital campaign that among many other improvements would mean upgrades to the Cathedral campus. Earlier this year the horizontal lights went out and needed to be repaired. No doubt the timing of this repair was determined in part by the Beatification of Fr. Michael McGivney that took place on October 31st. Fr. McGivney was a parish priest at St. Mary's parish in New Haven when he founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882. Since then this Catholic fraternal organization has grown throughout North and Central America as well as parts of Europe and Asia. Blessed Michael McGivney, as he is now known is on the path to

being declared a Catholic Saint. His image is on display on large banners on the front of the Cathedral. He is one of a very few US born citizens so venerated. The Archdiocesan Capital Campaign, mentioned above, is the first diocese wide campaign in the 176-year history of the Hartford Archdiocese. Their goal is to provide needed funds to support "projects, entities, and services that are integral to the long-term sustainability of the Archdiocese of Hartford" as is stated on their website at www.hartfordbishopsfoundation.org/ One of the projects that they are currently working on involves removing a portion of the old gymnasium that was part of the Cathedral School in order to provide usable space for the Malta House of Care, that currently serves Hartford with their Mobile Medical Clinic.



This is only a part of the plans that the Archdiocese has for the Cathedral campus. More will be reported as it develops. For more photos go to: <https://bit.ly/Cathcross>



A New Challenge.
A New Opportunity.

I am pleased to share some exciting news. The Connecticut House Democrats have unanimously selected me as the next Speaker of the House of Representatives at the State Capitol. Speaker of the House is a bipartisan office – the Speaker presides over the entire House – I will work with all members, Republicans and Democrats, as we deliberate and debate important issues over the next two years. My experience as part of the leadership team over the past four years has been a graduate degree in legislating. I look forward to partnering with our new Majority Leader Jason Rojas and Minority Leader Vin Candelora as we work together to lead and move Connecticut forward. There are immediate challenges, like how to conduct the people's business during a global pandemic. Our work begins immediately to ensure we have a successful and safe 2021 legislative session. As always, I appreciate your friendship and support. I look forward to working hard on behalf of the people of Hartford and State of Connecticut. Please contact me if I can ever be of any assistance. I can be reached at Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov, on Facebook @RepresentativeMattRitter or by phone at (860) 240-8489, if you have any questions or concerns.

Christmas Mass Schedule at the Cathedral of St. Joseph

Christmas Eve Vigil
December 24

- 2:30 p.m.
Celebrated by Very Reverend Daniel J. McLearn, Rector
- 4:00 p.m.
Celebrated by Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair
Archbishop of Hartford
- 7:00 p.m.
Dr. Ezequiel Menéndez, Organ
Louis Hanzlik, trumpet
- 8:00 p.m.
Celebrated by Very Reverend Daniel J. McLearn, Rector

NOTE: Due to COVID-19 restrictions, you must reserve your seat(s) at Mass. Go to: hartfordcathedral.org/mass-tickets-cdc-guidelines.html to register. Those attending Mass must wear masks and practice social distancing.

Christmas Day
December 25

- 10:00 a.m.
Celebrated by Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair
Archbishop of Hartford
- 9:00 a.m.
Celebrated by Very Reverend Daniel J. McLearn, Rector

Solemnity of the Virgin Mary, Mother of God
January 1, 2021

WATCH the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass at 10 a.m. Christmas Day on WCCT, TV 20 and WCTX, My TV9. The Christmas Eve Vigil and Christmas Day Masses can be viewed live on our website: <https://www.hartfordcathedral.org>.



"As the rector of the Cathedral of St. Joseph, it is my pleasure to invite you to come and celebrate the birth of the Lord with the parishioners of the cathedral parish. Archbishop Blair will preside and preach at the Christmas Eve Mass at 4:00 p.m., which will also be televised for those who may not be able to attend in person."

Very Reverend Daniel J. McLearn

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A Brand New Community Has Developed in Coltsville... Stop By!

Samuel Colt is credited with introducing some of the key elements of modern industry to the Connecticut River Valley, the nation, and the world. He and his wife, Elizabeth Jarvis Colt, were the hammer and anvil that forged the modern factory system and changed society in the process. The genius of Samuel and the philanthropic activities of Elizabeth were key in creating the city we know today.

Today, with many cities such as Hartford bereft of the manufacturing



Full moon rising over the Colt Dome.

A National Park in Progress

The area surrounding the former Colt Factory is in the process of becoming a National Park.



1. **Samuel Colt Memorial:** The memorial depicts two Samuel Colts - the young boy and the successful businessman.



2. **Colt's Patent Firearms Manufacturing Complex:** The machines and manufacturing techniques developed launched the second industrial revolution.



Photo circa 1870

3. **Armsmear:** The Colts had Armsmear constructed to mark their marriage. It is now a private residence for women.



4. **Colt Park:** Colt Park was originally part of the Colt's estate.



5. **Church of the Good Shepherd:** Elizabeth Colt built the Church in memory of her husband.



Aerial view of Coltsville, now in the process of becoming a National Park.



6. **Caldwell Hart Colt Memorial Parish House:** The Parish House was built in memory of the Colts' son.Caldwell.



7. **Armory Worker Houses:** Colt built 20 multi-family houses for worker housing.



8. **Potsdam Village:** The Village was fashioned after Potsdam Germany to recruit willow workers from Germany.

TODAY'S Colt Gateway

Colt Gateway Occupants

- 177 Residential apartments
 - CG Management Company
 - Connecticut Innovations
 - CREC - Greater Hartford Academy of Arts
 - Foley Carrier Services - Trucking Compliance Service
 - Green Box - IS
 - Hooker Brewery at Colt (some food available; the brewery will oon be expanded)
 - Insurity - Insurance Software Company
 - JCJ Architecture - Architectural Services
 - Maier Design Group
 - Office of Senator Christopher Murphy
 - Tecton Architects
 - Tom & Sam's Cafe
 - Wellness Federal Credit Union
- For apartment and commercial space inquiries, contact: **The Coltsville Leasing Office, 140 Huyshope Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106, 860-522-5000 ext 15, or leasing@coltgateway.com**

base that once fueled an economy that benefitted many, we see the rise of Coltsville as a new major player in the city that has spurred “A Steady Revival,” according to the Hartford Courant.

A \$120 million redevelopment has brought the Colt factory back to life as a new hub of education, commerce, and residence, under the leadership of Larry Dooley of CG Management. Of course, it has taken a lot of financial support from the project's major investors: Chevron, United Bank, and CRDA.

Manufacturing is back; offices are back; an architectural firm has moved in; and schools occupy significant space. All 129 apartments are occupied, 48 additional units have come online and a National Park is in the process of being created.

With the development of the last major piece of the Colt Complex, the North Armory with its iconic blue onion dome, now complete, the old factory’s transformation will be complete. Coltsville serves as a source of pride for not only the city of Hartford but the state of Connecticut as well.

The future will bring another 26 new apartment units and a gym facility in the u-shaped building on the north side of the Colt factory complex. Completion of this phase is scheduled for next year.

Retail space at Colt Gateway will soon be available to serve residents, neighbors and visitors.

Finally, the successful Hooker Brewery on the ground floor of the west side of the Colt Gateway complex will soon be expanding.



Turkeys for Hartford from the Hometown Foundation

This year, the Hometown Foundation, Inc. distributed 18,000 Thanksgiving dinners throughout the Northeast. On Friday, November 20, the organization dropped off hundreds of turkey dinners at Aetna Insurance (above). The dinners were then distributed to several Hartford organizations by the Hartford Police Athletic League (PAL), Hartford Police Explorers and Cadets, the Hartford Guardians, Hartford Hispanic Officers Association and others. At right is Hyacinth Yennie accepting the dinners for the South End Wellness Senior Center.



SHOP LOCAL!

Donna’s Best Holiday Gift Recommendations

BY DONNA SWARR

I am not normally a big “shop local” supporter, but this year, I’m in! Firstly, wear a mask. This past weekend there was a pop-up shopping experience on Pratt Street—Home for the Holidays, Shop Small—which was a lot of fun, and really got me in the mood. And the Hartford Chamber of Commerce is talking about having another pop-up event. There are some great shops on Pratt Street: Hartford Prints and Morneau’s Stackpole Moore & Tryon, to name two of my favorites. But I have some other great local suggestions for holiday gifts. By shopping locally, you’re supporting your neighbors as individuals, but it also means supporting the city we all love.

- Barnes & Noble on Front Street has a local author section, and they carry a memoir, *A Frog Hollow Childhood*, by Lynn Davis, mysteries by Mark Dressler, and many other great choices.
- Madame’s Beauty Supply on Park Street is always getting rave reviews; they provide services as well as products. A gift certificate would be wonderful.
- Looking for stocking stuffers? The Hartford Flavor Company distillery on Arbor Street makes scented hand sanitizers that make sanitizing a lot more pleasant, in addition to selling their popular Wild Moon

liqueurs.

- Why not get a gift certificate from Hooker Brewery for a growler? What is a growler? It’s a jug that contains 64 ounces of beer, and a great idea for someone that you know who’s hosting socially-distanced outdoor gatherings.



Can’t get any fresher than this! Up at Keney Park, the Sustainability Project is selling maple syrup—yummy! You can order online.

- Tickets to a Hartford Athletic game.
- Of course, a gift certificate from someone’s favorite restaurant for take-out is always a good idea.
- Want a more ‘practical’ gift? How about a gift certificate from Midas on Maple Ave for an oil change or another auto service or supplier on

Wethersfield Ave?

- Want something really different? Check out Aquiline Drones; they provide training and drone products.
- Looking to support Black businesses? In the Hartford News August 6th issue, the ShopBlackCT directory was published. You can go to their website.
- Don’t forget the furry friends! Bob Marshall’s Naturally Dogs and Cats is on Trumbull Street at Gold Street, right across from Bushnell Park, and carries a wide variety of pet foods and accessories, and offers curbside pickup if you call ahead with your order.
- There are hundreds of art-themed items, including books, cards, toys, jewelry, and more on Main Street at the Wadsworth Athenaeum Museum Shop—something for everyone on your list. They’re currently open on Fridays from noon-8 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from noon-5 p.m. You can also order online.
- Here’s a sweet gift idea: Mozzicato-DePasquale Bakery on Franklin Avenue will ship their famous pastries, cookies, and confections to your recipients. Orders for arrival by Christmas must be placed by December 13th; December 20th for New Year’s Eve.

You Better Watch Out

Tips for a safer and happier holiday season

BY ANNE GOSHDIGIAN

Holiday time 2020 is going to look a lot different from the ways we’ve celebrated those December days in the past.

Like everything else, the pandemic has brought changes to the cherished routines and traditions centered around Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa. Socially-distanced get-togethers with family and friends will be the norm. Some may merely connect through ZOOM, sharing online toasts while watching the kids opening their gifts, missing the hugging and kissing that means so much. It might be hard, yet we’ll get through it and find new ways to share the love and joy and camaraderie. But circumstances this year have brought about another big change.

Due to safety concerns, online shopping has eclipsed bricks-and-mortar retail. Amazon is recording record sales, and delivery services—FedEx, UPS, and the USPS being the major players—are kept busy around the clock, dropping off packages at their destinations and often leaving them at the door or on the porch. And as those numbers have increased, so have “porch pirates” proliferated. It usually goes like this. The thieves stealthily follow the delivery trucks and vans and once they’re out of sight do a snatch-and-grab of whatever boxes have been left for the customer who ordered them. The numbers are quite astounding. Around the country, more than 1.7 million packages are stolen or go missing every day, adding up to more than \$25 million in lost goods and services. In New York City alone, over 90,000 packages a day are stolen or disappear without explanation. Single-family homes are the most-often targeted, but multi-family dwellings aren’t immune to these thefts.

Unemployment has increased in the wake of the pandemic, and budget belts have been tightened. If an online order hasn’t been insured by the purchaser and is stolen after delivery it’s a hard blow to their finances, and puts a damper on holiday season. And at the other end, for many people these are desperate times. Out of work, possibly facing eviction and an uncertain future, the temptation to steal items that can then be sold for cash or perhaps given as gifts can be strong. Bottom line: Expect to see a lot more of this in the coming weeks than in the past. But there are ways that these thefts can be thwarted. Those who can afford it may choose to install a video doorbell camera (over 1.2 million were sold in 2019), or a home security system, both of which can alert the customer/homeowner who then can quickly summon the police who’ll have a better chance of catching the culprits if they’re still in the area. Experts have offered other methods of theft prevention that cost nothing but some advance preparation.

- Track deliveries online and try to be home at the time pack-

ages are delivered.

- Require a signature for all home delivery packages.
- When scheduling a delivery, leave instructions on where the package can be delivered.
- Request electronic notification when delivery is made.
- Ask a trusted friend or neighbor to receive your package at the time of delivery.
- If possible, have the package delivered to your place of employment or a location where you know it can be securely received.
- Schedule online purchases from big box retailers to be delivered to their local store where you can arrange for curbside pickup.
- Have the package delivered to a FedEx or UPS store where it can be held for pickup.
- Have your package delivered to the home of a relative or friend that you know will be home.
- Ask your carrier to place your packages in an area out of plain view.

And be a good neighbor and watch for suspicious activity. Immediately call police if any such activity is seen in your neighborhood.

Safe at home:

Holiday time always brings an increase in accidents at home; fires are the most common. Decorating for the season carries all the elements for beautiful—but flammable—displays; lights, candles, and trees. To ensure safety and avoid disaster, please pay attention to the following tips.

- Use sturdy candleholders and keep candles on sturdy, clear surfaces.
 - Blow candles out before they burn all the way down.
 - Give burning candles a one-foot berth on all sides.
 - Never leave burning candles unattended, don’t leave kids alone with burning candles, and don’t burn candles where people sleep.
 - Keep trees away from heat sources and water trees regularly
 - Don’t overload electrical outlets. Choose flame-resistant or flame-retardant decorations.
 - Use the right lights (indoor vs. outdoor) for the decorating job and hang with clips, not nails•
 - Get rid of trees before they dry out.
- In addition, be sure to check your smoke detectors and replace dead or missing batteries.



Politically Speaking

A Fresh Look at Issues Facing our Region & State

BY MIKE MCGARRY

Proud to be a Knight

The Cathedral of Saint Joseph Knights of Columbus (KofC) had set a full schedule for itself this past weekend. Free coats had to be given away to local youngsters in need*; the Cathedral’s nativity scene had to be set up; and touch-up work had to be done on three gardens on the Cathedral grounds.

Usually, the modest membership of KofC Council 11405 can handle most tasks. But, like most things this year, things didn’t turn out as

position them in front of the Cathedral’s massive front doors. Hay, greens, trees and a large star were added to complete the scene – will be viewed as you drive down Farmington Avenue.

The Knights were also able to spruce up our “Irish Garden” (which honors the contribution of the Irish to the Hartford Archdiocese), the display of relics from the original 1892 Cathedral and the grounds around the church



planned. Ed, Tom and Ivo were away. Others had concerns about contracting the virus. And other calls weren’t returned. It soon became apparent that we were going to be very shorthanded unless help came from elsewhere. So contacts were made with other KofC Councils in Greater Hartford and the response was tremendous.

We had plenty of help on Friday for Coats for Kids. The many hands made light work of moving large boxes of coats, setting up a dozen or so tables and laying out the 200 coats according to size. Soon the neighbors came for the coats, each child with an adult. After the 10 am start time, wave after wave passed through and by 12 noon all the coats were gone. Most (not all) kids got a winter coat in their size.

During this effort, enough help was on hand to start the second task: the nativity scene. 24 life-size figures, some so large they had to be carried by four people, were moved from the upstairs storage room to the narthex of the Cathedral. The following day, fellow knights and friends pitched in to attach the figures to bases and

and rectory.

Now, thanks to the help of Knights from throughout the region, Cathedral staff, parishioners and neighbors, hundreds of kids will be warmer this winter and thousands of passers-by will get the Christmas message from the nativity display in front of the church.

Everyone who lives, works and worships in the Asylum Hill area is invited to come see (and photograph) our manger display and the grounds around the Cathedral. A quick story: last year, while cleaning up on the morning after the nativity figures were installed, an Asian woman asked if she could take a photo. “Of course” was the response. She proceeded to take a few pics with her phone and then exclaimed “photos to China!” Later in the day, a CT Transit bus stopped, six women hopped off the bus brandishing their phones, took some shots and hopped back on the bus!

So it looks like our efforts are appreciated and it certainly makes one “Proud To Be A Knight.”

* The national and state KofC organization purchased the coats.

Free Food Distribution at Rentschler Field



from 8:30 am - 12 noon every Tuesday and Thursday from through December 22 at Rentschler Field, 615 Silver Lane, East Hartford. There will be one allocation of food per vehicle so that as many people are fed as possible. To make a donation to FoodShare, go to <http://site.foodshare.org/> and click “DONATE.”

FoodShare of Greater Hartford is continuing its bi-weekly distribution of free food packages to those who have been economically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Food distribution will be

Lockdown can only go 4-ways. You'll come out a monk, a hunk, a chunk or a drunk. Choose wisely. 🤖

How can you avoid being a chunk? Yikes! I had a four-day turkey weekend. It was a one-two punch. The amount of food I consumed nearly induced a coma. But you won’t be attending all of those parties where you’ll be tempted, so don’t make up for it on your own! Of course, you can find a chore you’ve managed to put off for entire year. As for being a monk? Well, you can take that spiritual trip to any level you choose. The first step is self-awareness. Try keeping a journal; years from now, you may really enjoy sharing your pandemic experience. It may explain some of your eccentricities, too. Another option is to try a variety of meditation techniques. I like to use a mantra. “Hunk” is a word commonly used to describe a man, but you get it—it’s about getting into great shape. The city’s Recreation division is putting out some new virtual programming. Go to Hartford Rec’s Facebook page to find out more about the Zumba classes on Tuesdays and Saturdays. They’ll be announcing more online, including some exciting new programming over the winter. Movement is a two-fer. It keeps you busy burning calories, but is also is natural way to boost your spirits. Drunk, hmmm. All of us during COVID need to think about how much alcohol we are consuming at home; it’s just too easy. And it’s well known that alcohol is a depressant. We don’t need that right now, do

Literacy Volunteers Virtual Gala Dec. 5

Literacy Volunteers of Greater Hartford will hold their annual fundraising gala at 7 pm on Saturday, December 5. Students and staff will describe the impact that improving literacy can have among city residents. For more information and tickets, go to www.lvgh.org/annual-gala.

Will COVID Make you a Chunk, a Monk, a Hunk, or a Drunk?

BY DONNA SWARR

we? That brings me back to finding activities that bring you joy and will hold your interest. For me, I like to knit or crochet. My husband has a model boat that has been waiting 20+ years to be put together. Time to

tackle that project! Variety is the spice of life, so try mixing it up with new things to do as well. I wish you luck in avoiding being a chunk or a drunk over the next 2-3 months, I know I’ll need it!



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NOTICE TO CREDITORS
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Agnes H. Graves,
AKA Agnes Holt Graves
(20-01080)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated November 30, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas
Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Bruce Kenney
c/o Rebecca A Hajosy
Hajosy Law, LLC
28 North Main Street, Suite 201
West Hartford, CT 06107

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
Gloria Fernandez
(20-00934)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated November 23, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Francesca Knerr, Esq.,
Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Christina Gonzalez
c/o Gregory Michael Cantwell
Jelly Dwyer & Cantwell
924 Farmington Ave, 3rd Floor
West Hartford, CT 06107

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
Vincenzo Zarcone
(20-00624)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated December 1, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Francesca Knerr, Esq.,
Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Rosalia Zarcone
110 Bond Street, Unit 4B
Hartford, CT 06114

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El Informativo Latino

Muertes por COVID-19 superan las 5,000 en CT; hospitalizaciones continúan aumentando

Las muertes relacionadas al COVID en Connecticut han superado los 5,000 a medida que las hospitalizaciones continúan aumentando.

Con un aumento de 81, las hospitalizaciones ascienden ahora a 1.098.

De las casi 107.000 pruebas realizadas desde el viernes, 4.714 dieron positivo. La tasa de positividad ahora es del 4,4%, lo que representa una disminución del 4,81% del viernes. Otras 59 personas murieron por COVID-19 durante el fin de semana. El número de muertos en el estado es ahora de 5.020.

El gobernador Ned Lamont dijo que el estado no sabrá el número de víctimas del Día de Acción de Gracias en los números de COVID-19 hasta dentro de una semana o dos.

Según el director de operaciones Josh Geballe, un total del 71% de las 8.000 camas de hospital en el estado están ocupadas actualmente. De las 1.000 camas de UCI, el 59% están ocupadas.

"Las camas no van a ser la capacidad limitante, van a ser personas", dijo Lamont durante la conferencia de prensa del lunes.

Vermont y Hawaii siguen siendo los únicos estados en verde con una tasa mínima de positividad.

Connecticut permanece en amarillo claro, que es la segunda categoría de tasa de positividad más baja. *By Iris Rodriguez*

Fauci advierte que EEUU podría ver “repunte sobre repunte” de casos de COVID

El principal experto en enfermedades infecciosas de Estados Unidos advirtió el domingo que el país podría ver un “repunte sobre el repunte” del coronavirus en las próximas semanas.

No es de esperar que las recomendaciones actuales sobre el distanciamiento social se relajen antes de Navidad, agregó.

“Cuando se tiene el tipo de inflexión que tenemos, no cambia de repente”, dijo el doctor Anthony Fauci, director del Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Alérgicas e Infecciosas. amente, en las próximas semanas, vamos a tener el mismo tipo de cosas. Y quizás incluso dos o tres semanas después... podemos ver un repunte sobre el repunte”.

Fauci agregó que “no es demasiado tarde” para que las personas que viajan de regreso a casa después del feriado del Día de Acción de Gracias ayuden a detener la propagación del virus usando mascarillas, manteniéndose alejadas de las demás y evitando grandes grupos.

“Sabemos que podemos hacer algo al respecto, particularmente ahora que nos adentramos en la tem-

porada más fría y nos acercamos a las vacaciones de Navidad”, añadió. El número de nuevos casos de COVID-19 reportados en Estados Unidos superó el viernes los 200,000 por primera vez. El anterior conteo diario más alto fue de 196,000 el 20 de noviembre, según datos de la Universidad Johns Hopkins.

El total de casos registrados en Estados Unidos, desde la contabilización del primero en enero, ha sobrepasado los 13 millones. Más de 265,000 personas han muerto por el nuevo virus en el país.

Fauci dijo que la llegada de vacunas ofrece una “luz al final del túnel”. Dijo que la semana que viene, el Comité Asesor sobre Prácticas de Inmunización se reunirá con los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades a fin de discutir cuándo comenzar a aplicar vacunas.

Añadió que el presidente electo Joe Biden debería centrarse en distribuir las vacunas de una “manera eficiente y equitativa”. Fauci agregó que planeaba persuadir a la nueva administración para que aplique un programa riguroso de pruebas. *By Iris Rodriguez*

La policía estatal publica estadísticas de fin de semana festivo, 7 muertes, 29 arrestos por DUI

La policía estatal de Connecticut publicó estadísticas para el fin de semana festivo de Acción de Gracias que mostró un fuerte aumento en las muertes con respecto al año pasado.

En 2020, siete personas murieron en accidentes en comparación con dos en 2019.

La gente murió en choques en Clinton, un doble fatal, Southbury, Pomfret, Waterbury, un doble fatal y Glastonbury. Este año se emitieron menos multas por exceso de velocidad y choques que el pasado.

Estas estadísticas de la Policía Estatal cubren el período de tiempo que comienza a la medianoche del 25/11/20 al 29/11/20 a las 11:59 p.m.

- Llamadas de servicio: 7.181
- Violaciones de VELOCIDAD: 211
- Violaciones de CINTURÓN DE SEGURIDAD: 106
- OTRAS infracciones PELI-GROSAS: 775 (para incluir cambio de carril inseguro, seguimiento demasiado de cerca, uso del teléfono celular, mensajes de texto, falta de señal, etc.)
- Arrestos por DUI: 29
- ACCIDENTES investigados: 376 con lesión: 52 muertes: 7 (Clinton (doble fatal), Southbury, Pomfret, Waterbury (doble fatal) y Glastonbury)
- Estas estadísticas de la Policía

Estatal de 2019 cubren el período de tiempo que comienza a la medianoche del 27/11/19 al 01/12/19 11:59 p.m:

- Violaciones de VELOCIDAD: 385
- Violaciones de CINTURÓN DE SEGURIDAD: 20
- OTRAS violaciones PELI-GROSAS: 1,257 (para incluir cambio de carril inseguro, seguimiento demasiado de cerca, uso del teléfono celular, mensajes de texto, falta de señal, etc.)
- Arrestos por DUI: 52
- ACCIDENTES investigados: 593
- Con lesión: 61
- Muertes: 2.



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Access Health Open Enrollment Period Ends December 15

Access Health CT (AHCT) has announced that the 2021 Annual Open Enrollment period has begun. Connecticut residents can enroll or renew their health insurance plan on the marketplace from November 1 to December 15, 2020, with their coverage starting on January 1, 2021.

Access Health CT is the state’s official health insurance marketplace, where you can shop, compare and enroll in quality health-care plans; and it is the only place

- plan.
- Ways to get FREE help**
- Online: AccessHealthCT.com
 - Live chat: AccessHealthCT.com click “Live Chat” icon
 - Phone: 1-855-805-4325, Mon. – Fri. 8 AM - 8 PM, Sat. 9 AM-3 PM
 - With Certified Brokers or Enrollment Specialists in

get help and your Access Health CT questions answered. There are also in-person enrollment centers in Groton, Bridgeport, New Haven, New Britain and Stamford. For more information, go to: <https://learn.accesshealthct.com/findus/#inpersonenrollmentlocations>.

***IMPORTANT:** All in-person locations and Virtual Enrollment

Fairs are by appointment only, and residents must wear a mask. To schedule, click here or visit [Learn.AccessHealthCT.com/Find Us](https://Learn.AccessHealthCT.com/FindUs)

“We would like to remind Connecticut residents that we are here to help, and all assistance to enroll or renew coverage is free,” said Chief Executive Officer of

Access Health CT, James Michel. “Many have lost their health insurance due to job loss, and we want to let you know that through Access Health CT over 90% of people qualify for financial help, low-cost or free coverage that can give you peace of mind if you get sick or injured.”



where you can qualify for financial help to lower your costs, or be eligible for free or low-cost coverage through HUSKY Health (Medicaid/Children’s Health Insurance Plan/CHIP).

During the last few months, AHCT has worked to improve and adapt its enrollment channels to help as many residents as possible get the coverage they need; taking all the necessary safety measures to help people enroll in or renew their health insurance

- your community
- At a time that works for you at a Virtual Enrollment Fair
 - In-Person at an Enrollment Location. In Hartford, the center is located at the Community Renewal Team (CRT) building, 330 Market Street, Open Monday-Friday, 8am-4:30 pm. Go to <https://www.crtct.org> or call (860) 461-5119. NOTE: You must have an appointment to

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
Alexis R. Ortiz
(20-01038)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated November 27, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas
Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Xiomara Rosa
c/o Michael W Levy
Gold, Levy & Poirot
21 Oak Street, Suite 300,
Hartford, CT 06106

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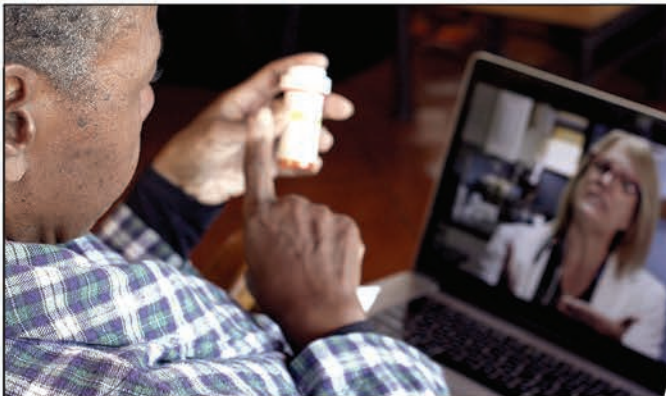
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